

00862.109670

PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                 |   |                            |
|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re Application of:           | ) |                            |
|                                 | : | Examiner: Unassigned       |
| HIDEO NORO, ET AL.              | ) |                            |
|                                 | : | Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| Application No.: To be assigned | ) |                            |
|                                 | : |                            |
| Filed: Concurrently Herewith    | ) |                            |
|                                 | : |                            |
| For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD    | ) | September 25, 2006         |
| AND IMAGE PROCESSING            | : |                            |
| APPARATUS                       | ) |                            |

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to  
amend the above-identified application as follows: